

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 12, 1901.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

The anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Joseph Smith will occur on the 23rd inst. He was born December 23, 1805. We suggest to the Bishops, everywhere, that it would be highly appropriate to hold special services in commemoration of that important event, on Sunday, December 23, 1901. The authorities of the several States and Wards will please make arrangements accordingly.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND.

LOCAL OPTION IN ALBERTA.

Our people in Alberta, Canada, have recently gained a victory on the liquor question. There is a local option law in that country, under it an election has to be held to decide whether local option shall prevail or not. A decision in favor means the virtual prohibition of the sale of alcoholic stimulants. The latter-day Saints of that region united in the movement against the liquor traffic, and succeeded in obtaining the necessary three-fifths of the vote cast and a few ballots to spare.

In a letter to the First Presidency from Charles O. Card, President of the Alberta Stake, some particulars are given in regard to this election. The license district in which it occurred is a hundred and twenty-five miles long and from eighteen to forty-two miles wide, extending along the international boundary, that is from the Rocky Mountains to the boundary line between Alberta and Assiniboia. There are ranches with residents on the borders of this district who are not "Mormons," and most of them fought the local option movement. The total vote cast was 41, of these two hundred and sixty-seven were in favor and one hundred and twenty-four against. This gave the Saints the necessary majority and twenty-one votes over. They had to put up \$100 in order to secure the election. The opposition talk of moving for a new election. For this they would have to raise a \$100, with the prospects of a still larger majority on the side of local option, because there are a number of persons who did not vote on the question who would cast their ballots in its favor, if agitation should be aroused so as to create additional interest. The license commissioners are: Robert H. Cardston, Orson A. Woolley of Magrath, and Frank D. Grant of Stirling all of whom are "Mormons." There are some licenses for liquor-selling that will have to run their full term, which is from seven to ten and a half months to come, but we understand there are only two of them, both at Cardston.

We congratulate our friends in the Canadian settlements on their success in this fight between society and intemperance. For, while it may be true that some people who indulge in the use of intoxicants do not go to the length of inebriety, it is evident that saloons where liquor is freely sold are a detriment to a community like that residing in those places. When a considerable majority of people are opposed to the liquor traffic, it can be restricted and almost if not entirely suppressed. But when the sentiment is contrary to that, or there is a considerable proportion of the residents in any place determined in favor of the traffic, it has been found that high license and strict regulations form the best method of treating the question. While there is a strong demand for any article, there will be found a supply, either openly and legitimately or secretly and unlawfully.

The settlements in Alberta are gradually growing in numbers and wealth and general prosperity. A good spirit prevails among them, and under wise direction they are becoming a strong and industrial community, a credit to their religious profession and a benefit to the Dominion.

CONGRESS AND ANARCHISM.

It is evident, from the large number of bills introduced in Congress for the protection of the life of the President, and the suppression of Anarchism, that the representatives of the people are in earnest about that matter. In Senator Hoar's bill even an attempt to kill a President of the United States is made a capital offense, while to advise or counsel such an act is to be punished with twenty years' imprisonment. Death is also to be the punishment for the person who shall willfully kill, or cause to be killed, without the jurisdiction of the United States a ruler or chief magistrate of any other country. This is aimed at possible conspiracies in this country against the life of foreign rulers.

This bill, it is thought, is the most comprehensive of those so far introduced, and will in all probability form the center of the debate on the subject. It may be considered extreme in some particulars, but after the deplorable affair at Buffalo, drastic measures will be approved by the people, if thereby a

repetition of the tragedy may be prevented.

Closely related to the bills for the suppression of Anarchism is the bill for the Immigration Restriction League, which is to come up again for consideration. The bill is similar to that vetoed by President Cleveland. It proposes a literacy test for immigrants. It adds to the excluded classes all alien immigrants, fifteen years and over, who cannot read the English language or cannot read the language except that an assimilated immigrant may bring or send for his wife and his children under eighteen years of age, as well as his parents or grandparents, over fifty years of age, even if they cannot read, provided they are otherwise admissible. It is thought that this test will not keep out much of the more desirable class of immigrants, such as come from Great Britain, Ireland, Germany and the Scandinavian countries, but will appreciably reduce the swarms that flock here from southern Europe, Poland and some of the Asiatic provinces.

In this way it is hoped that a number of the illiterate and ignorant classes among which the seeds of the noxious Anarchism are sown will be barred. But whether this object will be gained thereby, may be considered doubtful. It does not take very much "literacy" to read, mechanically, a few printed sentences. This accomplishment does not prove considerable intellectual development, or high morality. The assassins and demagogues that come here are often well educated, in some respects, being able to read the Constitution in more languages than the average American citizen. It is not because they are ignorant that they enter the warpath against society. It is because of their moral depravity, which knowledge has rendered more dangerous.

This country has accomplished a great deal, and one reason for this is that its door has been wide open to settlers from the nations of the world. But the development must go on. Here is room for many more millions. While it is desirable to exclude as far as possible the criminal element, it should always be remembered that illiteracy is not a crime, nor does it necessarily prove a predisposition to crime, particularly in countries with imperfect educational facilities. The literacy test is certainly inadequate. If the intention is to secure the country against the invasion of dangerous Anarchism,

A PRO-BOER DEMONSTRATION.

Bourke Cockran, last Sunday evening, entertained an enthusiastic Chicago audience on the conflict raging in South Africa. He spoke of the attitude he thought the government of the United States could assume in bringing about the end of that conflict. He attacked the methods employed in the war, and expressed the belief that the people of England had been misled, formed as to the attitude of this country, and that the moment they were made aware of the true sentiment of this people, the British government would have to either end the war on terms acceptable to both Britons and Boers, or be defeated at a general election. For this reason he suggested that President Roosevelt should immediately notify the British government, that the conscience of America stood appalled at the conditions now existing in the annexed territories, thereby bringing the British empire to a sense of the true feeling of the people on this side of the water, and he suggested this as the true solution of the entire question.

An important feature of the gathering was the enthusiasm with which the telling points of his oratorical efforts were greeted by the vast assembly. Chicago papers say that at times the speaker carried the house with him, but that it was distinctly noticeable that his latter denunciations were greeted with vociferous applause, while qualifying sentences invariably added, always had a chilling effect on the outbursts. The audience evidently was less moderate than the speaker. The sum of \$5,000 was subscribed for the Boer relief fund, and cheer after cheer rang through the hall as the subscriptions were announced. Among the resolutions adopted was:

"That the chairman of this meeting be authorized to appoint a committee of citizens of Chicago to call the attention of the President of the United States to these resolutions and to inform him of the sentiment of the citizens of Chicago, and that such committee when appointed shall have power to add to its number citizens of other portions of the United States."

Mr. Cockran, then, believes that the British government would reconsider its policy, on a suggestion to do so by the President of the United States. But Lord Salisbury, a few days ago, in a public address, plainly stated that Great Britain does not care for the sentiment in foreign countries, as long as the colonies approve the course pursued. He said:

"No doubt it is true, just at this moment, that we may have enemies who are not very reticent in expressing their opinion. But on the other hand, the action and cooperation of their royal highnesses, has shown that we possess in the support of our distant kinsmen an approval and sanction which, to us, is worth infinitely more than all the contempt and all the censure that we may receive from other nations."

And he added:

"I cannot admit that they are judges of our conduct or that we can modify our proceedings in deference to their opinion. What we look to are the opinions of our own kinsmen who belong to our own empire. We have received from all portions of that empire an indication that we have lost nothing in the opinion they held of the justice of our claim."

That indicates that the British government is by no means ignorant of the sentiment existing to some extent in foreign countries, and also that such sentiment has no weight whatever in the shaping of British policy. And this is exactly what might be expected. The United States, too, was very well aware that foreign sentiment was to some extent against it in its short struggle with Spain, but it shaped its own course without reference to expressions of disapproval in other countries.

It seems perfectly clear that any pressure on the British government must come from the British people. The Boer leaders themselves realize this. They do not expect intervention in their

behalf, even official offers of mediation. They hope to reach the British people through popular demonstrations in this country, and thereby effect a change of sentiment in their favor. And such a change may not unreasonably be looked for. The prolongation of the conflict means further burdens in the way of conscription perhaps, as well as taxation, and it is not impossible that this prospect will have its influence.

"MORMON" CO-OPERATION.

We notice that some of the journals of the country, interested in the subject of cooperation, are quoting from a book by William F. Smythe, whose name is familiar to the people of Utah. His "Conquest of Arid America" has received a wide circulation, and in it he advances some strong arguments in favor of the reclamation of the arid regions of this country and also in support of the principle of co-operation. Incidentally Mr. Smythe calls attention to the valuable work done by the "Mormons" in developing Utah, and shows that they first took up the irrigation problem and solved it to the great advantage of the State. He says:

"To study the human side of things in the arid region of the far west, we must begin with the Mormon commonwealth of Utah. This is true for a number of excellent reasons. We find here the earliest development of any consequence, although irrigation is older than history, it was never practiced upon any considerable scale by Anglo-Saxons, until the Mormon pioneers turned the waters of the Colorado upon the alkali soil of the Salt Lake valley in the summer of 1848."

He then gives some particulars of the arrival of the pioneers into this valley, of the making of the first rude ditch for irrigation, and of the growth of the system by which the "Mormons" converted the desert into a garden. He goes on to dilate upon the difficulties with which they had to contend, and of their belief in divine direction in all their affairs, and remarks:

"It is the industrial system which makes the Mormons well worthy of study at this time. Nothing like it exists elsewhere upon any considerable scale, yet to leading principle is certainly capable of general application. Good Mormons regard the system, like all their blessings, as a direct revelation of God. The economic life of Utah is founded on the general ownership of land. Speaking broadly, all are proprietors, none are tenants. Land non-appropriated was discontinued from the beginning. All were encouraged to take so much land as they could apply to a beneficial purpose. None were permitted to secure and merely to hold it out of use for speculation. The corner stone of the system was industrialism—the theory that all should work for what they were to have, and that all should have what they had worked for. The adoption of this principle was plainly due to the peculiar conditions which the leader saw about him. He instantly realized that value resided in water rather than in land; that there was much more land than water; that water could only be conserved and distributed at a great expense."

Mr. Smythe gives a description of Salt Lake City at its first settlement, and points to the fact that this became the model for future "Mormon" colonies. He pays due credit to President Brigham Young for his management and foresight, and points to the fact, which he says is important to note, that the "Mormon" land system rested on individual proprietorship; that there never was "any attempt at community ownership." Then he goes on to the subject of their success through co-operation. He says:

"If the Mormon leaders had desired to organize their industrial life in a way to make large private fortunes for themselves, no single item in the list of Utah's resources would have offered a better chance for speculation than the water supply."

But, he declares:

"They started upon a basis of equality for they were equally poor. They could buy water rights only with their labor. Their labor they applied in co-operation, and canal stock was issued to each man in proportion to the amount of work he had contributed to its construction."

The writer next explains how co-operation was extended to industrial enterprises of other kinds, how joint stock companies were formed, on a basis of equality so that all were given an equal chance to participate in the new industrial, mercantile and banking enterprises. As an example, he gives some facts and figures of the establishment and growth of Z. C. M. I., including the operations of the boot and shoe factory, the manufacture of overalls, etc., and remarks:

"This is the history of Utah's largest co-operative enterprise. It is a history which no friend of co-operative effort will blush to read, for it proves that a great business can be successfully administered in the interest of the many as in the interest of a few."

He touches on the beet sugar industry as "the latest and largest of the 'Mormon' industrial enterprises owned by a large number of stock holders, yielding large dividends and furnishing a profitable market for the products of many irrigated fields."

All this and a great deal more, is copied into a co-operative journal, published at Oakland, California, and commends itself to the unbiased reader as evidence that the "Mormon" question presents an industrial and economic side of its history, which may be viewed by many people apart from its religious aspect. To the latter-day Saints there is a great deal of religion involved in the proper conduct of temporal business, industrial effort and the union of men and women for the promotion of earthly comfort, advancement and happiness. There is a practical religion, entering into the affairs of this world as a preparation for a higher and grander sphere in the world that is to come. To them God is a present ruler and guide. They look to Him for light in all things that relate to their welfare, and in their successes they give to Him the honor and the glory.

No scramble for a place at the "turn-over" counter is ever satisfied with a "turn-over."

The treasury surplus is more in need of fortifying than the Nicaraguan canal.

The election of General Patrick A. Collins as mayor of Boston has caused the Republicans to lose heart.

General Kitchen's blockhouses are

said to be a success. It is about the only success he has had of late.

The presidential message contains three split infinitives, it is said. It may be but it has the merit of avoiding split hairs.

Aguinado has requested his lawyer to desist seeking to secure his release. Evidently the ex-rebel leader does not believe that if he seeks he shall find.

Louis was content to declare himself the state. The Kaiser goes further. He proclaims himself the court of appeal in affairs of honor in the German army.

Mme. Nordica, as a lineal descendant of Ichabod Norton, proposes to sue Uncle Sam for some millions of dollars. That name Ichabod indicates that the glory is departed from the house of Norton, and that a suit will be of no avail.

Some of the New York papers say that Maude Adams is not charming in her new play. So serious is the charge that the Utah delegation in Congress should institute a congressional inquiry into the matter. It is an aspersion upon Utah.

The cold season is upon us and soon the boys and girls will be going skating. Cannot the mayor and council have the pond in Liberty park filled and turned into a skating pond? This would be making the park a public resort in winter as well as in summer. It would not cost much and it would be a great boon to the boys and girls. In other cities the ponds in public parks are utilized for this purpose in winter.

Senator Burrows, of Michigan, would "spot" alien anarchists seeking admission to this country "by examining their persons for marks indicative of membership in anarchistic societies." It is a splendid idea and beats Vidocq and Sherlock Holmes all to pieces. Every person with a strawberry mark would have the burden of proof placed upon him to show that he was not a deep-dyed anarchist. When the senator's ideas are enacted into law immigration inspectors will have a task to perform.

The latter-day Saints' University is to be congratulated on securing the services of Senor Ladio as instructor in the Spanish language. He is an educated Castilian, an excellent teacher, a good linguist, and a pleasant and courteous gentleman. His engagement at that institution will afford an opportunity for missionaries called to labor in Mexico or other Spanish-speaking countries, not only to learn the construction of that tongue but also its proper accent and expression. A letter from Prof. J. H. Paul, president of the institution, on this subject, will be found in another part of this issue of the Deseret News.

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Chicago Record-Herald.

If public sentiment could be canvassed regarding the most important question that will come before the fifty-seventh Congress, there is little doubt that the verdict would be in favor of the immediate construction of the interoceanic canal. If the new Hawaiian Islands are promptly ratified by the Senate, as there is every reason to believe it will be, there would appear to be no further obstacles in the way of the construction of an all-American isthmian waterway by this government, and Congress will be expected to pass a canal bill at this session.

San Francisco Chronicle.

In addition to the measures of highest importance, strong efforts will be made to secure changes in the bankruptcy law, the establishment of an executive department of commerce, and some general laws in regard to telegraphic cables. "Anti-trust" legislation will be strongly pressed, especially with regard to the sale of oleomargarine and "shoddy" woolsens. A bill for a "technical" consular revision was one of the measures introduced the other day, which probably provides for a commission to study the subject for a few years and report upon it before action is taken. Doubtless one of the first measures of prime importance to be taken up will be the Nicaragua canal bill, which the House may be able to get passed by the time the Senate has acted on the treaty. Probably, in view of the decision of the Supreme Court just rendered, legislation affecting trade with the Philippines may be pressed.

Los Angeles Times.

The House of Representatives did well in re-electing David B. Henderson of Iowa to the Speakership. As Speaker of the House of Representatives, Henderson won the esteem and admiration of his political opponents as well as of the Republican members. His rule was generally conceded by members on both sides of the House to have been eminently just and fair. He presided with dignity as well as with fairness, and with excellent discrimination and good judgment. His re-election to the position is an endorsement which Mr. Henderson has honestly won.

New York Mail and Express.

The Fifty-seventh Congress meets under circumstances that are unexampled in time of peace. The country is in a more prosperous condition than ever before in its history, the problems growing out of the war are being solved, the Spanish aggression in Cuba are in a fair way of solution, the great enterprise of an interoceanic canal at the isthmus is ripe for action, and the spanning of the Pacific ocean with an American cable is waiting the word of authority. There is much to be done, and the means for doing it are at command. On matters of the highest import there is little ground for contest. There are commercial and economic problems looming up beyond, but they are not pressing, and there is no reason why this should not be a session of practical work which all patriotic Americans can support.

Ainslee's Magazine.

If one hundred American citizens were to be asked to name the most influential man in Congress, ninety-nine of them would reply off-hand, "The Speaker of the House of Representatives"—and they would be wrong. The man who comes nearest to being the most influential man in Congress is Nelson W. Aldrich, a United States senator from Rhode Island. The Speaker of the House is powerful, but his own and of the capital his supremacy is unchallenged; but Aldrich is greater than he. Aldrich can handle the Senate. Outside of Washington not many people know very much about Aldrich.

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GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.

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